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#5/B 6/1/03 PATENT Mel

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

SALAS et al.

Serial No.:

09/916,528

Examiner: Le, David Q.

Confirmation No.:

3156

Art Unit: 3621

Filed:

July 27, 2001

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONTROLLING ACCESS TO A PERIOD LINE

JUN 0 9 2003

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

In response to the Official Action dated December 3, 2002, please amend the aboveidentified patent application in the following manner. The period for response to the Official Action is extended with a petition filed herewith to expire on June 3, 2003.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.